

**From:** [Boyd, Jocelyn](#)  
**To:** [Duke, Daphne](#); [Easterling, Deborah](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Notice of Informational Session and Public Night Hearing dated 12/11/14.  
**Date:** Monday, December 22, 2014 9:05:13 AM

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**From:** CCMDON@aol.com [mailto:CCMDON@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 21, 2014 5:18 PM  
**To:** Boyd, Jocelyn  
**Cc:** Ralph@warrennormaninc.com; ralphnorman@schoose.gov; tommypope@schoose.gov; rwhayes@comporium.net; harvey@harveypeeler.com; rh@scsenate.org; hpeeler@peelerco.com; tpope@elrodpope.com; PSC\_Commissioner.Hall; PSC\_Commissioner.Whitfield; PSC\_Commissioner.Howard; PSC\_Commissioner.Elam; PSC\_Commissioner.Randall; PSC\_Commissioner.Fleming; PSC\_Commissioner.Hamilton; Hipp, Dawn; Morgan, Willie  
**Subject:** Notice of Informational Session and Public Night Hearing dated 12/11/14.

**To:**  
**Ms. Jocelyn Boyd**  
**Chief Clerk**  
**Public Service Commission of South Carolina**  
**Attn: Clerk's Office**  
**Post Office Drawer 11649**  
**Columbia, SC 29211**

**Subject:**  
**Unrealistically short time allowed for presentations at Public Hearing set by the Notice of Informational Session and Public Night Hearing to be held at the offices of the PSC on Thursday, February 26, 2015 at 6:00 PM regarding Docket # 2014-399-WS: Joint Application of Carolina Water Service, Inc. (CWS), et al for Approval of Transfer of Stock and Merger.**

Dear Ms. Boyd:

Thanks to you and to the Commissioners for your and their processing and consideration of my request for the rejection of Utilities, Inc.'s Motion to accelerate consideration and to waive a public hearing on Docket # 2014-399-WS.

Regarding the Informational Session and Public Night Hearing now scheduled on that Docket, I respectfully suggest that the limit of three (3) minutes for oral presentations at the Public Night Hearing is extremely short and should be extended substantially.

Three (3) minute public presentations or comments are typically the type allowed, generally at the beginning of a business meeting with a formal agenda, for brief public comments on random items not included in the agenda. Such a limit is not, in my opinion, appropriate for a public hearing on a matter of importance to thousands of resident taxpayers.

In the case of a public hearing on a detailed and relatively complex matter such as is the subject of Docket # 2014-399-WS, this brevity makes it, as a practical matter, impossible for an individual or group of individuals to provide meaningful input to the Commission on this very important issue. For example, the fairly brief and straight-forward single page "Notice of this Informational Session and Public Night Hearing" imparts only date, time, location and presentation limit of the hearing. If one reads this minimal content aloud at a normal speaking pace, I believe they will find it takes nearly precisely three (3) minutes to do so.

The Joint Application is anything but simple and straight-forward. A three (3) minute presentation

limit makes it unlikely, in my opinion, that the Commission will obtain much, if any, important information and perspective on the merits (and demerits) of the Joint Application. I believe such a limit effectively negates the purpose of having a public hearing.

There are major concerns with the merger as currently proposed, including the inevitable negative short-term impacts on water and sewer rates, and the impacts on other important activities related to the provision of water and sewer service, particularly in York County. Some of these concerns are not referenced, recognized or addressed in the Joint Application, even though they potentially involve millions of taxpayer dollars. Others are mentioned in passing and dismissed as insignificant items. To discuss these with the Commission takes a lot more than three (3) minutes. If a universal limit must be imposed, I would suggest at least ten (10) minutes or more as being appropriate.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Don Long  
14 Sunrise Point Court  
Lake Wylie, SC 29710  
803-831-2455